

**INDEPENDENT TESTING LABORATORIES QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS TO
PERFORM TESTING ON REINFORCEMENT SPLICES FOR THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (Caltrans)**

- I. Independent testing laboratories seeking approval to perform sample testing on reinforcing steel splices shall provide brochures, approved shop drawings, and any other technical documentation that proves that the laboratory have the following:
 - A. Proper facilities, including a tensile testing machine capable of breaking the largest size of reinforcing bar (bar diameter) to be tested.
 - B. A device for measuring the total slip of the reinforcing bars across the splice to the nearest 0.001-inch, that, when placed parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bar is able to simultaneously measure movement across the splice at 2 locations 180 degrees apart.
 - C. Training records/certification for operators who have received formal training for performing the below listed ASTM and California Test Methods.
 - D. Records of annual calibration of testing equipment performed by an independent third party that has:
 1. Standards that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and
 2. A formal reporting procedure, including published test forms.
 - E. Accreditation by a nationally recognized accreditation agency (such as, the Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory (CCRL) program) and scope of accreditation for the following test methods:
 1. California Test 670: Method of Tests for Mechanical and Welded Reinforcing Steel Splices.
 2. ASTM A 1034: Standard Test Method for Testing Mechanical Splices for Steel Reinforcing Bars.
 3. ASTM A 970: Standard Specification for Headed Steel Bars for Concrete Reinforcement.
 4. ASTM A 370: Standard Test methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products.
- II. Caltrans will
 - A. Ensure all required documentation are received.
 - B. Review the technical information the supplier provides.
 - C. Upon evaluation of results from I.A to I.E above, issue either an acceptance letter or rejection letter.
 - D. Update the Caltrans Independent Testing Laboratory Pre-qualified list, if applicable.

For more information, you may contact the Structural Materials Testing Branch at (916) 227-7253.